

READING SYSTEM

1 BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

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3 The present invention relates to a reading system
4 for speed reading texts, and especially to a system
5 using scan bars, scan words and scan indicators. This
6 invention is an improvement over my prior U.S. Patent
7 No. 4,643,450 of February 17, 1987. There are a
8 wide variety of techniques used for teaching speed
9 reading and to enable readers to speed up the reading
10 to cover more material in less time while enhancing
11 the retention of the material read. The closest prior
12 art to the present invention are those techniques
13 particularly directed to guiding the movement of the
14 reader's eye from one line or line group of printed
15 material to the next succeeding line or line group.
16 It has also been suggested that prior technique for
17 studying includes underlining text material, or
18 reading in phrases rather than by individual words so
19 that articles and certain types of words can be
20 ignored. Thus, the format of the reading, such as a
21 page or column, needs to have relatively short lines
22 and relatively wide spaces from each other to avoid
23 the difficulty of skipping material.

24 The present invention is directed towards a
25 printing technique in which books, pamphlets, papers
26 or flyers can be produced for the rapid reading in
27 which a variety of techniques are integrated into
28 single reading columns located on each page including
29 the rapid reading of computer internet pages. These
30 techniques enhance the ability of the individual to
31 rapidly scan and comprehend the material by keeping

1 the reader's eye aligned with the scan bar while
2 selecting words to be scanned which are printed in a
3 larger bold type of a different font from the
4 unscanned text and having scanned line indicator marks
5 for directing the eye towards the scanned material.
6 Experimentations have shown that anyone with minimal
7 practice can substantially increase their speed of
8 reading and material covered using the present system.

9 Prior art U.S. patents which utilize techniques
10 for scanning, reading or using a phonic alphabet may
11 be seen in the Shapiro U.S. Patent No. 3,611,593 for
12 a line group sequential reading aid, in which selected
13 lines have a visible symbol adjacent thereto. This
14 system aids the eye of the reader in following the
15 sequences of lines to be read by providing marginal
16 indicia at the start of each line or line group to
17 guide the reader's eye to the start of the next
18 succeeding line group to be read and to tie in the
19 starting indicia with like indicia at the end of the
20 proceeding line group. U.S. Patent No. 3,426,451 to
21 Hoffman shows a phonic alphabet in which a font of
22 alphabetical letters is used for teaching, spelling
23 and reading. The U.S. Patent to Sheffield, U.S. Patent
24 No. 1,456,834, shows an art of printing, which uses a
25 variety of type fonts and styles, all intermixed
26 within each paragraph so that each group of elements
27 are separated throughout the printed material. In
28 U.S. Patent No. 875,756 to Warren, a stenographer's
29 notebook is shown with vertical and horizontal lines.

30 My prior U.S. Patent No. 4,643,450 is for a
31 reading system and process for printing and reading
32 text which uses a scan bar to scan words and scan
33 indicators. A plurality of printed sheets are

1 provided, each having at least one vertical extending
2 scan bar and a plurality of short printed lines of
3 indicia, which are printed perpendicular to the scan
4 bar with certain lines having scan words therein in a
5 bold or a different colored type font. The plurality
6 of scan line indicators are placed adjacent to the
7 scan bar and adjacent each scan line having scan
8 words.

9 The present invention is an improvement over my
10 prior patent which enhances and speeds up the reading
11 of text by using boldface words in one font and
12 lightface words in another font to more rapidly
13 distinguish to the eye and having the boldface words
14 larger than the lightface words so that the eye of the
15 reader moves more rapidly through the scanned words
16 and also having all of the scan words start at the
17 scan bar for rapid location of the scan words and in
18 order to eliminate horizontal eye movement when
19 scanning the text. In addition, the boldface words
20 always form a complete sentence or thought and are
21 placed on column lines of no more than 1 and $\frac{1}{2}$ inches
22 wide. These enhancements make for more rapid reading
23 of the text in the present reading system.

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25 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

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27 A speed reading system includes a plurality of
28 printed sheets, each sheet having a vertically
29 extending scan bar and a plurality of printed lines of
30 indicia extending perpendicular to the scan bar.
31 Selected printed lines of indicia have a plurality of
32 grouped scan words therein with the scanned words in
33 a different font and larger bold type than the non-

1 scanned words and each group of scanned words being
2 positioned with the first scanned word in each group
3 in one line being adjacent to the vertically extending
4 scan bar. A plurality of scan line indicators are
5 located adjacent to the scan bar with one scan line
6 indicator being adjacent each scan line having at
7 least one scan word therein with each scan line
8 indicator being indicative of a line having scan words
9 therein. A second scan bar is placed parallel to the
10 first scan bar on the other side of the scan line
11 indicators. Each scan line is less than four
12 centimeters long. Each scan word may be two points
13 larger than each non-scanned word so that a person
14 reading the plurality of printed sheets can rapidly
15 scan each column of printed text.

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17 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

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19 Other objects, features, and advantages of the
20 present invention will be apparent from the written
21 description and the drawings in which the drawing is
22 a sample of printed text in accordance with the
23 present invention.

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25 DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

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27 Referring to the drawing, a sample of reading
28 text using the present reading system is illustrated
29 in which each column on each page has at least one
30 scan bar 10 running vertical on the page of material
31 and having short lines or phrases of printed scan
32 lines 11 extending perpendicular to the scan bar 10
33 running down the page of the right side of the scan

1 bar 10. The scan lines 11 include scan words 12 which
2 are printed in a bold type of a different font from
3 the non-scanned words 13 within the text. The scan
4 words 12 may be, for instance, printed in a bold text
5 which is two points larger than the standard text 13,
6 such as a 10 point bold faced font and an 8 point
7 light font. A different font is used to make the scan
8 words readily discernable by the eye in a rapid
9 scanning of the text. Each line 11 of the text, which
10 has a scan word 12 therein, has one of the scan words
11 starting adjacent the scan bar 10 except for the text
12 identification numbers 14. A plurality of scan
13 indicators 15 may be square black dots or the like and
14 placed adjacent the scan bar 10 and placed adjacent to
15 each line 11 having a scan word 12 in the line so as
16 to readily draw attention to each scan line which has
17 scan words therein. Each column of text has a second
18 scan bar 16 placed parallel to the scan bar 10 on the
19 opposite side of the scan indicators 15. In addition,
20 each scanning line of text 11 is less than four
21 centimeters long or no more than about 1 ½ inches or
22 about 4 cm, thus allowing two or more columns to be
23 placed on the same sheet.

24 To read the materials shown in the Figure, a
25 reader learns to read each entire line of scanned
26 words rather than the individual words. The lines are
27 made of a length that can be easily read a phrase at
28 a time as one scans from the top of the column to the
29 bottom of the column without shifting the eyes from
30 one side to the other. The scan indicator 15 focuses
31 the eye on each scan line having scan words in which
32 the scan words are of a different font and of a
33 considerably larger font than the non-scan words and

1 each is made to start from adjacent the scan bar 10 to
2 make for the rapid alignment of the eye during the
3 rapid scanning of each column. The short columns
4 allow the eye to go from the top to the bottom without
5 shifting from left to right during the scanning. Thus
6 when reading, the eye follows the scan bars 10 and 16
7 from top to bottom reading each phrase of scanned
8 words as one moves from one scan indicator 15 having
9 scan words 12 therein to the next. The scan words 12
10 are automatically emphasized so that study aids, such
11 as underlining, are not necessary and the fast reading
12 allows a quick scan at a much greater rate of reading
13 and comprehension. The system advantageously takes
14 only minimal learning to substantially increase the
15 speed of reading the materials so that a person is
16 able to cover large amounts of material in a much
17 shorter period of time. The reading system of the
18 present invention is enhanced by the use of columns of
19 no more than 1 inch to an 1 ½ (about 4 cm) to thus
20 eliminate the left-to-right eye movement and by having
21 the boldface scanned words of one font while the light
22 faced non-scan words are of a different font and are
23 not bold faced. Each bold faced word may be two
24 points larger than each of the light faced words. For
25 example, the bold faced words can be ten points while
26 the light faced words can be eight points. All bold
27 faced words come back to the scan bar adjacent a scan
28 indicator to maintain the focus of the movement of the
29 eye during scanning to scan straight down one column
30 without losing one's place. Every word of text in a
31 book, such as in the bible, as illustrated, is printed
32 with nothing left out so that a person desiring to
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1 fill in the scanned text, has the option to do so at
2 any time.

3 It should be clear that the present invention is
4 directed towards a printing system in which books,
5 pamphlets, papers, or flyers can be produced for rapid
6 reading in a variety of techniques integrated into a
7 single reading column located on each page. This
8 technique enhances the ability to rapidly scan and
9 comprehend the material by keeping the readers eye
10 aligned with the scan bar 10 and focused on the lines
11 by the scan indicator 15 having the scanned words 12
12 of a larger bold type font and of a different type
13 font than the non-scan words which provide a natural
14 flow of the eye over the scanned material. However,
15 it should be clear that the present invention is not
16 to be considered as limited to the forms shown which
17 is to be considered illustrative rather than
18 restrictive.
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